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Spiros Farming Bills Pass Assembly

Madison – Today the Assembly voted to pass two bills authored by Representative John Spiros (R-Marshfield) that would benefit potato farmers in the state of Wisconsin.

Assembly Bill 53 (Senate Bill 20) shortens the amount of time in which DATCP (Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection) must address late blight. Late blight is a disease that, if unmanaged, can spread quickly and is very damaging to potato crops.

Assembly Bill 54 (Senate Bill 23) requires potato growers who grow more than 5 acres of potatoes each year to plant only certified seed potatoes. This will help prevent the spread of potato diseases, and will also allow potato growers to better compete in the industry.

"Potato production is an important industry in the state – we rank third in the country," Rep. Spiros said. "These bills make truly positive changes for potato growers in the state and we have had the full support potato growers every step of the way."

Both bills have already passed in the Senate and will now be sent to the Governor to be signed into law.

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